

HOUSE RESOLUTION 275

By Lundberg

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend General Shale Brick of Johnson City on the 80th anniversary of its establishment.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those exemplary institutions that, through an abiding commitment to excellence, are a credit to this State; and

WHEREAS, General Shale Brick is one such institution which is celebrating the milestone of 80 successful years since its founding; and

WHEREAS, in celebration of its 80th anniversary and as a tribute to the region where it had its beginnings, General Shale Brick opened the doors of its new state-of-the-art corporate headquarters in Johnson City in 2008; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1928, General Shale Brick has risen to a level of distinction as the nation's largest brick manufacturer, producing more than 1.5 billion bricks annually and supplying residential, commercial, and specialty architectural bricks and brick pavers; and

WHEREAS, its parent company, Vienna, Austria-based Wienerberger AG has most assuredly earned recognition as the world's largest brick company and second largest manufacturer of clay roof tiles in Europe; and

WHEREAS, with more than 2,300 employees, General Shale Brick operates plants in 11 states and provinces throughout the United States and Canada in addition to a network of 47 distribution centers across the country; and

WHEREAS, having produced more than 40 billion bricks during its illustrious eight decades in production, General Shale Brick now features a product line of about 250 unique combinations of sizes, colors, and textures; and

WHEREAS, in pursuit of its mission to understand and respond to customers' needs, General Shale Brick strives to build, maintain and improve customer relationships through a nationwide network of direct sales outlets and distributors; and

WHEREAS, General Shale Brick continually invests in automation technology to fulfill the company's commitment to the highest levels of safety, efficiency and environmental standards; and

WHEREAS, a company committed to excellence, General Shale Brick has been recognized for its environmental practices and its ongoing efforts to enhance operations and integrate quality principles into its business activities; and

WHEREAS, throughout its 80-year history, General Shale Brick has been a generous corporate and philanthropic citizen, donating brick-related materials to a wide variety of worthy causes on a voluntary basis; and

WHEREAS, demonstrating a longstanding partnership with East Tennessee State University, General Shale Brick provided more than 200,000 bricks for the construction of the 50,000-square-foot Natural History Museum and Visitor Center in Gray, which opened in 2007; and

WHEREAS, in an ongoing effort to preserve and promote the rich history of one of the world's oldest building materials, the General Shale Museum of Ancient Brick at the company's headquarters features bricks from significant historical sites dating back to pre-Biblical times; and

WHEREAS, the outlook for General Shale Brick remains positive as its owners and employees look forward to many more years of quality service and successful sales of their superior brick products; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and commend General Shale Brick on the occasion of its 80th anniversary and extend to everyone associated with General Shale Brick our best wishes for every continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

